HAROLD WEISBERG
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Frederick, MD 21702

5/12/94

Mr. Roger Rosenblatt, editor-in-chief
The Columbia Journalism Review
700 Journalism Bldg.,
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

Dear Mr. Rosenblatt,

I address you having no address for the Pulitzer committee and because I think perhaps the CJR may be interested in what I say about the enclosed clipping from the San Francisco Chronicle of April 21 that I've just received.

Please excuse my typing. I'm 81 and limited in what I can do.

I hope you will forward this to the appropriate Pulitzer board people.

If Gerald Posner's Case Closed, nominee for the history division, had been granted a pulitzer the scandal would have been beyond belief. It is the most deliberately dishonest book I've ever read. It is based on, using his own publisher's unabridged, both plagiarism and shysterism, as he and his publisher, Random House, without question knew. His plagiarisms range from the faulted work of a 15-year-old to an also faulted presentation to the bar association's 1992 convention. I have documented this with care and in detail in a book a small fraction of which was just published (pub date this coming Monday), Case Open. My book was published with the visible haste but the text is accurate and understated. I have a file of the complete manuscript with xeroxes of all I used in it filed with each chapter. It will be freely available to anyone who has an interest, with copies if wanted.

My credentials are encapsulated on my book's back cover, copy enclosed.

I am the only one writing about the JFK assassination and its investigations whose work is entirely factual, not theorizing of any kind. All my writing is based on the official evidence and to obtain the quarter of a million pages of it I have I filed a number of FOIA lawsuits. Some were precedental, one led to the 1974 ~~amend~~ amending of the Act's investigatory files exemption, and I make all this information freely available to all, including those I know will write what I do not agree with. Gerald Posner had unsupervised access to those records and to our copier.

If the nomination was by Random House, ~~there~~ there is still another scandal because without question its vice president and executive editor ~~and~~ who was also Posner's editor knew of at least some of Posner's literary thievery. I have Posner's own statement indicating this in one of his interviews.

Posner's book cannot survive the most primitive checking. I have reason to believe that Random House sought no legitimate peer reviews. He even bases a major part of his book on Warren Commission testimony he misrepresnts. On a page he skipped, quoting from

both sides of it, the psychiatrist swore to the exact opposite of what Posner attributes to him, his sole source on that matter. (And that disreputable shrink got free sex from his women patients until a court forced him to pay one of them $350,000. As Posner would have learned if he had looked at that file, which was open to him. He'd have seen the reports from the N.Y. Times and from Time magazine.

My book has been on sale a month or more. I've not heard a peep from Posner or from his publisher.

Without any question at all, Posner whored with our history, his publisher pimping for him.

If in pimping for him and for the commercialization and exploitation of that great tragedy the pimp solicited the Pulitzer award, well I hope there will be an inquiry so that the justified reputation of the Pulitzers will be protected.

And so that others will not be so tempted in the future.

I am, of course, prepared to answer any questions and to provide proofs of what I say.

One of your contributing editors, Chris Hanson, has been here. I think he saw the volume of the records on which I draw. And they have all been deeded, with no quid pro quo, to a fine small local college, Hood College, which will maintain them as a free public archive and is now exploring means of making them available to other institutions. Posner himself wrote that he had "full run" of all that information, unsupervised.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

Harold Weisberg

No one knows more about the assassination of President Kennedy than Harold Weisberg, so said the FBI in open court.

Harold Weisberg—a former OSS and Senate Investigator—wrote and published *Whitewash* in 1965, the first book criticizing the conclusion of the Warren Commission. Since then, he has written and published seven books on President Kennedy's assassination.

Case Open is a book Mr. Weisberg felt compelled to write. He felt a need and determination to set the record straight.

In proving that Gerald Posner, in *Case Closed*, has proven nothing, Mr. Weisberg has proven that President Kennedy was killed by a conspiracy.

In analyzing *Case Closed*, he demonstrates that Gerald Posner has

- Distorted evidence
- Suppressed evidence
- Omitted evidence
- Developed no new evidence
- Omitted sources
- Misappropriated the research of others
- Misled the reader into believing that he had sponsored new scientific computer enhancements.

At best, Gerald Posner has provided a case for the prosecution. Now it is time to present the case for *Case Open*.

Let the American public decide who has presented the stronger case: Gerald Posner or Harold Weisberg.

CASE OPEN

$11.95

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